

MAR 13 2008

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

---

DEVELOPING HAWAII'S NATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TRAINING AND  
CONSULTATION PROGRAM FOR PRIVATE, GOVERNMENTAL, AND NON-  
PROFIT ENTITIES WITH AN EMPHASIS ON AT-RISK COMMUNITIES.

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature has acknowledged the importance of  
2 Hawaii's kupuna and through Act 285, Session Laws of Hawaii  
3 2006, has established the Joint Legislative Committee on Family  
4 Caregiving; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, the Legislature further acknowledged the need to  
7 assist frail and vulnerable elders by enacting legislation to  
8 provide for adult protective services, to protect the structural  
9 integrity of nursing homes and other institutions, to maintain  
10 the safety of elderly residents in condominiums, and other  
11 measures that will assist elders who are "aging in place" when a  
12 natural disaster occurs"; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, in the event of a natural disaster, there exists  
15 the potential for great harm and injury to the elderly and  
16 persons with disabilities, absent adequate natural disaster  
17 preparation and training; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, during Hurricane Rita, a number of nursing home  
20 residents died in New Orleans due to a lack of preparedness, and  
21 similar incidents in Hawaii should be avoided by preparing for  
22 hurricanes, tsunamis, and other natural disasters; and  
23

24           WHEREAS, large numbers of elders live alone and may be in  
25 need of assistance in the event of a natural disaster,  
26 especially if separated from family, friends, and caregivers;  
27 and  
28

29           WHEREAS, the elderly who live in condominiums and other  
30 multi-unit buildings are at greater risk because many buildings  
31 do not have emergency plans or procedures to meet the immediate



1 and short-term needs of their residents who are aged or who may  
2 have disabilities; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, recent federal legislation has established the  
5 National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University  
6 of Hawaii to conduct research and develop specific models and  
7 tools for monitoring natural hazards and evaluating risks to  
8 urban areas, while planning for the response, recovery, and  
9 reconstruction of the community in the aftermath of natural  
10 disasters; now, therefore,

11  
12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the  
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of  
15 Hawaii Natural Disaster Preparedness Training Center is  
16 requested to include in its work program a component that  
17 addresses the needs of Hawaii's at-risk elderly and persons with  
18 disabilities; and

19  
20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii  
21 Natural Disaster Preparedness Training Center is requested to  
22 include in its plans for developing a disaster preparedness  
23 program for at-risk elderly and persons with disabilities, the  
24 Joint Legislative Committee on Family Caregiving, Kupuna Caucus,  
25 and other interested organizations and persons; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
29 University of Hawaii Natural Disaster Preparedness Training  
30 Center, Director of Human Services, Director of Health,  
31 Executive Director of the Executive Office On Aging, Chairperson  
32 of the Policy Advisory Board on Elderly Affairs, Executive  
33 Director of the Disability and Communication Access Board, and  
34 the Executive Director of the Statewide Independent Living  
35 Council of Hawaii.

36  
37  
38

OFFERED BY: *[Signature]*  
*Therese Chun*  
*Carol Fukunaga*

*[Signature]*  
2008-1804 SCR SMA-1.doc

